

Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
January 15, 2025 @ 4:30pm

We believe all children can learn.

We believe a trusting, caring, and nurturing environment must pervade the entire school.

We believe in including as many children as possible in all of the learning opportunities.

We believe all of our actions should be consistent with our purpose and vision.

We believe students should be taught “how” to think, not “what” to think.

We believe the primary purpose of education is to teach children “how” to learn.

We believe children must take responsibility for and be actively involved in their learning.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** *The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Russ Kennedy. Russ Kennedy (Chair), Sharon Hansen (Vice-Chair), Cody Hanson, Ally Luthe, Brooke Rindahl, Steven (Sam) Macklay, and Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio) were present.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Brooke R. made a motion to approve the revised agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*
3. **Approval of the December 18, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes:** *Steven (Sam) M. made a motion to approve the December 18, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*
4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** *The board reviewed the monthly financial statement as printed in the packet. Ally L. made a motion to accept the [As of] December 31, 2025 Financial Reports, as printed in the meeting packet. Cody H. seconded the motion. The motion carried (6-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** None.
6. **Reports:**
 - 6.1 **Director’s Report:**
 - *Enrollment: 52
 - *DPS started its Archery Unit with 9th/10th grade students on 1/7. They completed the information class at DPS, and have traveled to the Archery Club on other days. 10 hours of instruction will be provided. Robin Dalby (volunteer) worked with the students at both DPS and the Archery Club. A background check was completed prior to this taking place.
 - *COMPASS - Sarah Mikkelson Zeigler came to DPS on 1/7 and 1/14 to speak with students, and collect information/data. She asked questions about the school, and got feedback. She will return to discuss the results with staff on our Professional Development day on Monday 1/19. She will also meet with Dan and Sharon about the school’s CNA for COMPASS. We will share the student feedback results with the Board once the data is put into a report.
 - *DPS had a Holiday party for staff/students on Tuesday 12/23 before heading into the Holiday break. DPS held a Food Drive, and donated all food to St. Vincent De Paul's on Monday 1/12.
 - *Planning to start 2 new students next week at the start of Qtr. 3.
 - 6.2 **Community:** Nothing to report.

6.3 Finance: (Russ Kennedy, Dan Weisser, Adam Hewitt – *Creative Planning*) Date: 7/15/25

*Committee members present: Dan Weisser, Adam Hewitt (not an official finance meeting as there was not a Board Member present)

Discussion Notes

*Enrollment - 52

*Revise Budget - Adam and Travis reduced DPS's ADM in the budget and with MDE. This was discussed at the Finance Meeting. There is concern about how low the Fund Balance could drop. We will need to keep a close eye on this throughout the year.

*Grant Awards - Dan and Adam worked on the G5 and REAP in the SAMS system. Dan is still in the process of gaining full access and will renew the school's UEI number (unique entity identifier) as soon as possible. Dan and Adam also discussed finances, it was recommended at the current time, that any spending that is not required should not be approved. Dan will keep a close eye on limiting spending.

*Financial Packet - Most Changes to the Finance Packet should have been made at this point. The required format for quarterly financials with OW has been put in place.

*MN Employee Paid Leave - This was put in the Employee Handbook (employer pays 50% and employee pays 50%). All employees signed an official letter stating that they acknowledge this information.

6.4 Academic Committee: (Dan Weisser, Sharon Hansen)

We will be meeting with juniors and seniors when quarter 2 grades are final to encourage students to stay on track to graduate.

6.5 Environmental Education: (Sharon Hansen, Garret Bitker)

The school received an additional 258 trout eggs for Trout in the Classroom. There was a statewide issue with the first batch of eggs that led to decreased survival rates. We now have over 350 trout eggs/young trout. We plan to release them in April as we have for the past couple years.

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: OW Sounding Board – Board Oversight of Academic Outcomes.

The board discussed the Sounding Board article printed in the board packet.

7.2 Director Evaluation:

None

8. Action Items:

8.1 DPS Annual Report (revised): Sharon walked through the changes to the annual report based on feedback from Osprey Wilds. *Cody H. made a motion to approve the revised Annual Report and CACR Report. The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (6-0).*

9. Adjournment: Board members were reminded that our next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 4:30pm. *Sharon H. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 pm. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

Respectfully submitted: Sharon Hansen